

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO

CSCE GENEVA 224

/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 6445

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, XH, XG

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES

REF: A. WARSAW 6424

B. WARSAW 6361

1. SUMMARY: ON OCTOBER 22 THE EMBASSY HOSTED A MEETING OF
POLITICAL COUNSELORS FROM NATO EMBASSIES TO DISCUSS THE
RECENTLY CONCLUDED PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. SOME OF THE
REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF OUR NATO COLLEAGUES, OBTAINED FROM
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EE DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE, AND

JOURNALISTS, CONTRIBUTE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE POSITIONS OF THE YUGOSLAV AND ITALIAN DELEGATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE WERE TAKEN UP BY THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS OF THE 28 DELEGATIONS. A DRAFTING COMMITTEE WENT INTO SESSION AT 3:00 PM ON THE SECOND DAY AND DID NOT FINISH ITS WORK ON THE COMMUNIQUE UNTIL 2:00 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING. THE SESSION ON THE THIRD DAY WAS LARGELY SPENT IN DISCUSSING, AMENDING, AND AFFIRMING THE COMMUNIQUE.

3. THE SEPARATE DECLARATION ON "FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE FIGHTING AGAINST FASCISM, FOR FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE" WAS FINALLY AGREED TO AT THE REPEATED INSISTENCE OF THE DELEGATIONS FROM SPAIN, PORTUGAL, CYPRUS, AND NORTHERN IRELAND. THE YUGOSLAVS STRONGLY OPPOSED THIS AT FIRST, ARGUING THAT THE WORK OF THIS CONFERENCE WAS TO PREPARE FOR THE FORMAL EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES AND NO OTHER BUSINESS OR DECLARATIONS SHOULD BE ENTERTAINED. THE YUGOSLAVS FINALLY GAVE IN AND AGREED TO THE DECLARATION AFTER IT BECAME CLEAR TO THEM THAT THEY HAD OBTAINED EVERYTHING THEY WANTED FROM THE MEETING, INCLUDING THE FINAL WORDING OF THE COMMUNIQUE.

4. BOTH THE ITALIANS AND YUGOSLAVS MADE THE TEXTS OF THEIR SPEECHES AVAILABLE TO JOURNALISTS, BUT THE ROMANIANS HANDED OUT ONLY AN APERCU OF THEIR SPEECH. THE FRENCH PARTY ALSO WITHHELD ITS TEXT, BUT MADE LENGTHY EXCERPTS AVAILABLE, WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH POLITICAL COUNSELOR, ADDED UP TO ABOUT TWO THIRDS OF THE SPEECH.

5. THE PASSAGES NOT MADE PUBLIC BY THE FRENCH PARTY DEALT WITH TWO POINTS: 1) ITS OBSERVATIONS THAT THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IN EUROPE WAS NOT VIEWED IN THE SAME POLITICAL TERM BY THE FRENCH, RUSSIANS, ITALIANS, AND THE EASTERN EUROPEANS. SINCE DIFFERENT ANALYSES OF THE CRISIS INEVITABLY LEAD TO DIFFERENT POSITIONS WITH REGARD TO POLITICAL TACTICS; AND 2) THE FRENCH PARTY'S CONCERN THAT COMMUNIST CONTROL AND DIRECTION OF LEFTIST ALLIANCES NOT BE SACRIFICED TO INTERNATIONAL TACTICS.

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6. THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF ALL SOURCES WAS THAT THERE WILL BE AT LEAST 2 MORE PRELIMINARY MEETINGS, THE ONE WHICH HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR DECEMBER OF JANUARY--PROBABLY IN BUDAPEST, AND A SECOND-- POSSIBLY IN THE GDR IN MARCH OR APRIL. THE ITALIAN CP FLATLY REFUSED TO HOST ANY OF THE MEETINGS.

7. ACCORDING TO THE ITALIAN DCM, THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY CONSIDERS THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE TO HAVE BEEN THAT A

PROTOCOL ON PROCEDURES WAS AGREED TO FOR ALL PRPARATORY MEETINS
AND THE CONFERENCE ITSELF WHICH INCORPORATES ALL OF THE YUGOSLAV
CONDITIONS. WHEN THE YUGOSLAV DCM WAS ASKED BY THE ITALIAN DCM
IF THE YUGOSLAWS WOULD BE STRONG ENOUGH TO RESIST IF THE CHINESE
QUESTION IS RAISED AT A LATER STATE, THE YUGOSLAV DCM EMPHATICALLY
SAID YES.

8. ALL SOURCES AGREE THAT THE YUGOSLAV, ITALIAN, AND ROMANIAN
DELEGATIONS WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH THE FINAL OUTCOME.
DAVIES

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